

CRIMINAL ABORTION.

Report of the Committee, by J. Henry Barbat, Chairman.

Mr. President and Members of the San Francisco County Medical Society.

The work of the Committee on Criminal Abortion has been kept up during the past year and it affords me pleasure to report that we have been successful in causing the removal of most of the advertisements of the professional abortionists from the columns of the daily press. Our work has been hampered by the attitude of the newspapers in refusing to drop the objectionable ads until forced to do so by the Post Office Department. The Examiner is the only paper which immediately closed its "Medical" column, and refused to accept ads from the known abortionists. The Chronicle after writing to me and informing me that they would drop the ad of any individual whom I could show up as an abortionist, ignored absolutely an affidavit which was sent to them and continued to take every disreputable ad which came in. The Call ignored my communication and continued to collect tribute from men and women who gained their livelihood by murdering unborn babies. The Oakland Tribune and the Bulletin also ignored my communication. I wrote to the President of the Alameda County Medical Society asking the co-operation of that body, but received no reply. We succeeded in driving several of the advertising abortionists across to Oakland where they are posing as specialists, for the cure of diseases peculiar to men, having found that it was less risky and equally profitable to killing babies. One feature which shows the difficulties under which we have labored is the scheme adopted by most of the individuals who have been trapped of changing their names in the ads. Thus Dr. G. W. O'Donnell, the son of the illustrious C. C., was obliged to change his name to Dr. G. W. Olcot when the papers were notified that they would be barred from the mails if his ad appeared again. The co-operation of the newspapers with the professional abortionists is clearly shown by the fact that they are willing to accept ads from these people under false names. Dr. Olcot gave away to Dr. Moore, then to Dr. Black, who in turn became Dr. North, under which name Dr. O'Donnell is now advertising. At periodic intervals the papers publish what is known as the lottery edition which is of course denied the mails and circulates only in the City. In this edition will usually be found the ad under the right name, of one of the well known abortionists, also showing the perfidy of the press.

I have attempted to interest the District Attorney's office and have some of the most notorious abortionists prosecuted, but without success, because our State laws are so constituted that it is not considered wrong to advertise openly the sale of abortifacients, or to offer to perform criminal abortion. I would suggest to the committee on legislation that the attention of the legislature be called to the matter and proper laws be framed to enable the prosecuting attorneys to handle these cases when their attention is called to them.

It is unfortunately necessary to keep after the criminal class continuously, and it needs money to hire detectives to get evidence to convict them; I have willingly employed people during the past year, but I believe that the society should put aside a small sum annually for this purpose until our legislators see fit to frame ordinances which will make it a misdemeanor to publish the ad of any abortionist.

December, 1908.

NEW AND NON-OFFICIAL REMEDIES.**VIBUTERO.**

An elixir, each 30 Cc. (one fluidounce) of which is said to represent: Blackhaw 2.6 Gm. (40 grains), cramp bark 2 Gm. (30 grains) squaw vine, wild yam, Jamaica dogwood and saw palmetto berries, of each 1.3 Gm. (20 grains), pulsatilla 0.65 Gm. (10 grains) in a menstruum containing 17 per cent. of alcohol. Dosage.—8 Cc. (2 fluidrams), three times a day, followed by a teacupful of hot water. Prepared by H. Stearns & Co., Detroit, Mich.

VINUM EXTRACTI MORRHUAE.

A wine containing in each 30 Cc. (one fluidounce) 0.26 Gm. (4 grains) of alcoholic extract of fresh cod liver (made from fresh livers received in alcohol and containing their full amount of oil) and 0.26 Gm. (4 grains) of peptonate of iron in a menstruum containing 15.25 per cent. of alcohol.

Actions and Uses.—It has been introduced as a substitute for cod liver oil. It is not believed by pharmacologists generally that the oil free extracts represent any considerable part of the therapeutic efficiency of cod liver oil. Dosage.—15 Cc. (4 fluidrams) before meals and at bedtime. Manufactured by F. Stearns & Co., Detroit, Mich.

XEROFORM.

Xeroform, $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{OH} \cdot (\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\text{Br}_3)_2 = \text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}_3\text{Bi}_2$, is a chemical combination of bismuthyl oxide and tribrom-phenol, containing nearly 60 per cent. of Bi_2O_3 .

Actions and Uses.—Xeroform is a non-irritant and non-toxic antiseptic. It is recommended as an odorless and efficient substitute for iodoform; as a specific in ulcer cruris and all weeping eczemas; internally, in gastrointestinal catarrh, proctitis, dysentery, bacillary and choleraic diarrhea, cholera infantum, etc. Dosage.—1 to 3 Gm. (15 to 45 grains) per day to adults; 0.12 to 0.3 Gm. (2 to 5 grains) at a dose to children. Externally, as a dusting powder, in bandages, etc., like iodoform. Manufactured by The Heyden Chemical Works, New York.

ADNEPHRIN SUPPOSITORIES.

Each suppository represents a 1 to 1,000 combination of adnephrin with oil of theobroma and weighs about 1 Gm. (15 grains).

Actions, Uses and Dosage.—See Suprarenal Alkaloid and Adnephrin Solution. Prepared by Frederick Stearns & Co., Detroit, Mich.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

The following are the names of those appointed by the Governor on the State Board of Medical Examiners:

Walter Lindley, M. D., Los Angeles.
W. W. Roblee, M. D., Riverside.
J. Henry Barbat, M. D., San Francisco.
Charles L. Tisdale (H), M. D., Alameda.
Charles Clark (E), M. D., San Francisco.
W. M. Mason (E), M. D., Lodi.
W. H. Stiles (H), M. D., San Bernardino.
D. L. Tasker (O), M. D., Los Angeles.
W. L. Vanderburg (O), San Francisco.
G. F. Reinhardt, Berkeley.
F. R. Burnham, San Diego.

The Board met for organization early in May, but at the time of going to press we have not learned the result of the election of officers.

COUNTY SOCIETIES**ALAMEDA COUNTY.**

Dr. Albert Abrams, of San Francisco, addressed the society on the subject of thoracic aneurism. He coined the word spondylotherapy, to indicate the rational treatment of disease by means of methods